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ABSTRACT

Statistical information on 620 museums and historical societies in New York State is presented. This report provides a description of the current condition and value of museums and historical societies. The report presents a perspective which can help organizations make decisions about policies, such as commitment of resources. The information was obtained from a questionnaire with yes/no check-off responses. Data on individual organizations are not reported, nor are the organizations named. Also, state-operated historical sites are not included. The report is presented in nine chapters. Chapter I reports statistical highlights of the survey: (1) history organizations accounted for approximately 72% of those surveyed; other-combined organizations, 15%; art organizations, 9%; and science organizations, 5%; (2) the majority of museums and historical societies were governed by independent nonprofit organizations; (3) the majority had collections and conducted educational activities; (4) the majority of art and science organizations had budgets over $100,000, paid staff, and administrative and exhibition facilities; (5) most history organizations had small budgets, few or no paid staff, and limited facilities; and (6) the other-combined organizations ranked lowest in terms of membership, but highest in annual attendance. Subsequent chapters provide data on types of organizations and subject specialization; governing authority and incorporation; annual operating budget; facilities; cultural education programs; collections, attendance, membership, and accessibility; and personnel. The appendix contains sources for additional information on museums and historical societies and a copy of the survey questionnaire. (KC)

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SURVEY

OF

MUSEUMS AND HISTORICAL SOCIETIES

IN

NEW YORK STATE

SP 012 165

The University of the State of New York
THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
New York State Museum
Cultural Education Center
Albany, New York 12230

1979

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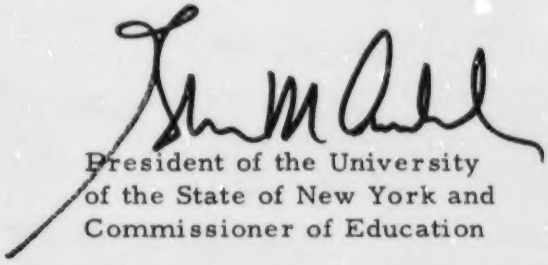
FOREWORD

Museums and historical societies have an important contribution to make to education. They provide programs and services not available from other sources. As one step to describe their value and current condition, the State Education Department has conducted a survey of museums and historical societies. The statistical results are presented here.

How do art museums compare to science museums in terms of visitation, education programs, and budgets? What are the characteristics of the State's history museums and historical societies? How many employees are there in New York State's museums and historical societies? You will find the answers in this report. The statistics can be used by every museum, historical society, or cultural agency, large and small.

We hope this report helps each museum or historical society to gain a perspective on itself and on other cultural organizations in the State. We expect it will help organizations make decisions about the commitment of resources. We hope the report will enhance understanding and assistance to museums and historical societies in New York State.



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Thanks are owed to the museums and historical societies who completed questionnaires. The high level of response was key to this survey's success.

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INTRODUCTION

In late 1977 and early 1978, the New York State Museum conducted a survey of museums and historical societies in New York State. The State Museum undertook this survey to gather statistical information concerning the basic characteristics of museums and historical societies and to disseminate it to organizations making decisions about cultural resources. This survey represented a pioneer effort in that an attempt was made to reach every art, history, and science museum and historical society in the State. Further, this survey included those historical societies and history museums founded and/or expanded as a result of the Bicentennial Celebration.

To conduct the survey, a questionnaire was prepared in conjunction with The State Education Department's Information Center on Education. A field test confirmed that the questionnaire could be satisfactorily completed by a variety of organizations, whether small or large, with staff or without. Based on Department files, 700 organizations were identified as museums or historical societies. These organizations were each mailed a questionnaire for completion by an executive officer or a chief staff member. Most organizations cooperated by promptly returning the form, although some required follow-up. Over 88 percent of the questionnaires, representing 620 organizations, were completed and returned. The questionnaire responses were then computerized and tabulated.

The survey results reported here describe the museums and historical societies as they existed in 1977, including information on types of organizations, facilities, budgets, personnel, attendance, activities, and collections. The data are examined for the collective survey group and for organizations according to subject specialization--art, history, science, and other-combined (organizations dealing with two or more broad subjects). Significant differences are seen between museums and historical societies when they are looked at in this way. In some cases other comparisons are made as well, e.g., the distribution of full-time employees by the size of annual operating budgets.

The report is thus a reference tool consisting of data tables which set forth the statistical information. A number of important points should be kept in mind when reading the report.

1. Beyond being known as a nonprofit museum or historical society or related organization, no strict criteria were applied to define the organizations. Thus, the survey results show a wide diversity, from museums having budgets of over one million dollars and 200 employees to historical societies with budgets under one thousand dollars and no employees, but having 20 members. (See Table 2 for a list of the 22 types of organizations surveyed.)

2. Federations of historical or cultural organizations were not included in the survey; neither were "friends groups" or other supporting membership groups.
3. State-operated historic sites were not included in the survey. In most cases where the questionnaire responses revealed the State affiliation, the organizations were eliminated from the data tabulations.
4. Data on individual organizations are not presented and organizations are not named.
5. Survey data are based on the last completed fiscal year or the last 12 months prior to receiving the questionnaire. Questionnaires were sent out in the Fall of 1977, and data collection ceased at the end of February, 1978. The year represented in the survey data is 1976-77, or all of 1977, and is referred to as "1977" in all tables.
6. The questionnaire was designed with yes/no or check-off responses. The resulting data do not provide in-depth information on any one area and do not indicate quality of programs or facilities. The survey findings themselves suggest areas warranting further study. (See questionnaire form in the Appendix.)

7. Organizations included in the survey accurately reflect the population of museums and historical societies in New York State. Some organizations, however, may have been missed. This is especially true among the smallest historical societies which lack permanent mailing addresses or which may be active during only part of the year. Still, it appears that the majority of these small organizations have been included in the survey.
8. Because of rounding, totals shown in a few of the tables differ slightly from sums obtained by actually adding the component values therein.
9. All information contained in the data tables was obtained from the survey except for county populations, which were obtained from the U.S. Bureau of the Census, and student enrollment figures which were provided by the State Education Department's Information Center on Education.

This report does not attempt to draw conclusions or provide recommendations. Rather, it is hoped that each agency and organization will study these statistics and use them in making policy decisions. Organizations should study the statistical findings and relate them to current assumptions and opinions concerning museums and historical societies. For example, the dramatic differences in budgets, attendance, and

variety of educational programs between art, history, and science organizations result in part from differences among the communities served and differences in goals of these organizations. Historical societies and small history museums generally serve a regional community population and a loyal membership. Exhibits for a broader public may not be the major emphasis. Art and science museums usually seek out a wide public base; their changing exhibitions may bring people in repeatedly during the year. Many art and science museums are older, have more extensive collections, and possess larger budgets than do their history counterparts.

It seems that no two survey studies are directly comparable, and this survey is no exception. Findings reported here differ in some respects from findings about museums and historical societies reported elsewhere. There are several reasons for this.

This survey, conducted statewide, attempted to reach all museums and historical societies, and succeeded in reaching a survey group of 620 organizations out of an estimated 700. Other surveys have not included both museums and historical societies: most surveys have excluded the small organizations which lack paid professional staff and have small annual operating budgets (less than $25,000). This survey report is one of the few published to date, which characterizes the historical societies and history museums founded as a result of the Bicentennial Celebration.

This survey was conducted to characterize museums and historical societies collectively and by subject specialization. Except for attendance by county, the report does not fully characterize local or regional situations. For comparison purposes, readers may wish to consult other surveys. A list is included in the Appendix. Differences between this survey and others make direct comparisons difficult.

The survey findings confirm some facts that are already apparent, e.g., the large number of historical organizations in New York State. They also bring to light new statistics that may be critical, e.g., that 5,253 people are employed full-time in museums and historical societies.

Future surveys conducted by the State Education Department will better document changes in the condition of museums and historical societies, since the current data will be a reference base. Persons wanting more information, having questions about the statistics presented, or wishing to make suggestions for future reports are cordially invited to contact:

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CHAPTER 1

STATISTICAL HIGHLIGHTS OF 1977

Statistical highlights of the museums and historical societies surveyed are shown in table 1. The entries in the table are selected and summarized from later tables in this publication where information is presented in greater detail.

Museums make important educational or aesthetic use of collections of artistic, historic, or scientific value. Historical societies often have this as a major activity also, although many operate primarily as membership organizations to promote understanding and appreciation of history. A look at the survey highlights underscores the basic characteristics of museums and historical societies and brings out the differences occurring with subject specialization.

- The 620 museums and historical societies surveyed are unevenly distributed in terms of subject specialization. History organizations accounted for 72 percent of those surveyed; other-combined organizations accounted for 15 percent; art organizations accounted for 9 percent; and science organizations accounted for 5 percent of those surveyed.

- Looking at the entire survey group, the majority of museums and historical societies were governed by independent nonprofit organizations and were incorporated by the Board of Regents.

- Most museums and historical societies were small when measured according to the size of their annual operating budgets.

- The bulk of the organizations had collections and conducted educational activities. These characteristics help set museums and historical societies apart from other cultural organizations.

- Differences in art, history, science, and other-combined organizations were seen when looked at according to annual operating budgets, programs, employees, memberships, and visits.

- The majority of art organizations had budgets over $100,000, paid staff, and administrative and exhibition facilities. They were open regularly to the public and they conducted a variety of education programs. Art organizations ranked third in terms of numbers of members and second in terms of annual attendance.

- Most history organizations had small budgets, few or no paid staff, and limited facilities for conducting business or running public programs. They conducted traditional education programs--usually guided tours. While history organizations ranked second in terms of membership, they were last in terms of visits, with only 16 percent of the State's total annual attendance.

- Science organizations resembled art organizations in their overall characteristics. The majority had budgets over $100,000, paid staff, and administrative and exhibition facilities. They were open to the public regularly and they conducted extensive education programs. Science museums had the greatest number of members and, while they ranked third in terms of visits, they still accounted for 27 percent of all museum or historical society attendance.

- Other-combined organizations, which deal with two or more subjects, showed a considerable range of characteristics, depending on whether they were more closely associated with art, with history, or with science. As a group, the other-combined organizations ranked lowest in terms of membership, but highest in terms of annual attendance.

TABLE 1

New York State Museums and Historical Societies

Statistical Highlights - 1977

Item Description	Entire Survey Group	Subject Specialization			
		Art	History	Science	Other-Combined[a]
Number of Survey Respondents	620	56	442	29	93
Percent Distribution of Respondents	100%	9%	71%	5%	15%
Percent of organizations that are independent and nonprofit	82%[b]	61%	87%	55%	82%
Percent of organizations incorporated by the New York State Board of Regents	62	38	69	35	51
Percent with annual operating budget of less than $10,000	59	20	73	17	31
Percent with annual budget between $10,000 and $99,000	20	25	20	28	24
Percent with annual operating budget over $100,000	20	55	6	52	44
Percent having facilities such as libraries, offices, exhibition areas, etc.[c]	71	98	65	86	77
Percent organizations that are open to visitors on a regular basis	71	96	65	97	81
Percent conducting cultural activities	79	82	77	93	85
Percent having collections	78	86	77	93	77
Percent with membership programs	80	70	84	79	67
Number of members	861,000	158,000	201,000	431,000	71,000
Number of employees	15,552	4,331	4,704	2,597	3,920
Number of full-time paid employees[d]	5,253	2,387	668	956	1,242
Number of volunteers[d]	6,746	1,489	2,820	449	1,988
Number of education and exhibition employees[d]	4,312	568	1,832	474	1,438
Number of visits annually (nearest thousand)	29,686,000	8,335,000	4,841,000	8,104,000	8,406,000
Scheduled elementary and secondary school visits annually (nearest thousand)	3,248,000	472,000	757,000	566,000	1,453,000

[a] Other-Combined Museums deal with two or more broad subjects.

[b] Percent figures are the percentage of the numbers given at the top of the column in which they appear (ex. 82% of all the 620 organizations responding to the survey are independent, nonprofit organizations; 61% of the 56 art museums and societies are independent, nonprofit, etc.).

[c] See Item #5 of the questionnaire, listed in the appendix, for a complete list of the types of facilities asked for.

[d] Figures are from selected employment categories and do not add up to the Total Number of Employees presented above.

CHAPTER 2

TYPES OF ORGANIZATIONS AND SUBJECT SPECIALIZATION

Organizations completing the survey questionnaire were asked to select one term from a choice of 22 which would best characterize that organization. The results are shown in table 2. In the self-selection process, the most frequently chosen term was "historical society"--picked by 311 organizations which make up 50.2 percent of the entire survey group. Next in frequency was "history museum" with 67 organizations, 10.8 percent of the entire survey group.

The "other" category was selected by 51 organizations, ranking it third, 8.2 percent of the entire survey group. This suggests a need to provide more terms and to specifically define them in future surveys.

The fourth-ranking choice was "art museum," picked by 42 organizations, 6.7 percent of the survey group.

No organization characterized itself primarily as an aquarium, a herbarium, or a planetarium, although these occur as facilities in several organizations surveyed (see table 8, Facilities).

Table 3 shows how organizations were grouped according to the subject specialization of art, history, science, or other-combined. These data are summarized as follows:

- 56 art organizations consisting of 2 art associations, 42 art museums, and 12 art centers comprised 9.0 percent of the entire survey group.

- 442 history organizations consisting of 18 historic sites, 29 single historic structures, 13 groups of historic structures, 311 historical societies, 67 history museums, and 4 industrial museums, comprised 71.2 percent of the entire survey group.

- 29 science organizations consisting of 7 botanical gardens, 8 natural history museums, 4 nature centers, 4 science and technology museums, and 6 zoos made up 4.7 percent of the entire survey group.

- 93 other-combined organizations consisting of 22 art and history museums, 2 art and science museums, 4 children's museums, 14 libraries with collections, and 51 other organizations (including general museums) made up 15.0 percent of the entire survey group.

TABLE 2

NUMBER AND PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF
RESPONDING ORGANIZATIONS BY TYPE*

1977

Type of Organization	Responding Organizations	
	Number	Percent
Aquarium	--	--
Art Association	2	0.3%
Art Museum	42	6.7
Art and History Museum	22	3.5
Art and Science Museum	2	0.3
Art Center	12	1.9
Botanical Garden	7	1.1
Children's Museum	4	0.7
Herbarium	--	--
Historic Site	18	2.9
Historic Structure (Single)	29	4.7
Historic Structure (Group of)	13	2.0
Historical Society	311	50.2
History Museum	67	10.8
Industrial Museum	4	0.7
Library with Collections	14	2.3
Natural History Museum	8	1.3
Nature Center	4	0.7
Planetarium	--	--
Science and Technology Museum	4	0.7
Zoo	6	1.0
Other	51	8.2
Total	620	100.0%

* The 620 responding organizations represent approximately 89 percent of the estimated 700 museums and historical societies in New York State.

TABLE 3

NUMBER AND PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF ORGANIZATIONS
BY SUBJECT SPECIALIZATION

1977

Subject Specialization	Responding Organizations	
	Number	Percent
ART:		
Art Association	2	3.6%
Art Museum	42	75.0
Art Center	12	21.4
Total	56	100.0%
HISTORY:		
Historic Site	18	4.1%
Single Historic structure	29	6.6
Group of Historic structures	13	2.9
Historical Society	311	70.4
History Museum	67	15.2
Industrial Museum	4	0.9
Total	442	100.0%
SCIENCE:		
Aquarium	--	--
Botanical Garden	7	24.1%
Herbarium	--	--
Natural History Museum	8	27.6
Nature Center	4	13.8
Planetarium	--	--
Science and Technology Museum	4	13.8
Zoo	6	20.7
Total	29	100.0%
OTHER-COMBINED (TWO OR MORE SUBJECTS):		
Art and History Museum	22	23.7%
Art and Science Museum	2	2.2
Children's Museum	4	4.3
Library with Collections	14	15.1
Other	51	54.8
Total	93	100.0%
SUMMARY:		
Art Organizations	56	9.0%
History Organizations	442	71.2
Science Organizations	29	4.7
Other-Combined Organizations	93	15.0
Total	620	100.0%

CHAPTER 3

GOVERNING AUTHORITY AND INCORPORATION

Independent nonprofit organizations were responsible for governing 82 percent of the museums and historical societies in the survey group, as shown in table 4. Municipal, county, State, or Federal governments operated another 10 percent of the museums and historical societies. The survey did not distinguish between local, State, or Federal governments. The remaining organizations were operated by colleges, industry, private individuals, or others.

Among art organizations, 31 percent were governed by colleges and universities, 7 percent by governments, and 60 percent by nonprofit organizations. Among science organizations, 31 percent were government-operated, 54 percent were controlled by nonprofit organizations, and 11 percent by colleges and universities. Notably, not a single history organization was operated by a college or university. The majority were operated by nonprofit organizations, with 10 percent operated by the various governments.

The Board of Regents incorporates independent nonprofit museums and historical societies by issuing charters.* The Regents incorporate related educational institutions by issuing certificates of incorporation. A provisional charter

*NOTE: For information on chartering, consult Law Pamphlet 9, Incorporation of Educational Institutions by the Regents, The State Education Department, Office of Counsel, Albany, New York, 1979.

is valid for three years, after which it may be extended or made absolute. An absolute charter has no termination date. Overall, as seen in table 5, 62 percent of the entire survey group was incorporated by the Regents, with 59 percent holding charters.

The Department of State incorporates independent nonprofit organizations whose purposes are not presented as distinctly educational. In this survey, 15 percent of the organizations were incorporated by the Department of State.

In the entire survey group, 19 percent of the organizations were not incorporated. It is important to note that organizations run by governments or educational institutions would usually not seek incorporation by the Regents or the Department of State as they would have no need for separate incorporation. Thus, among art organizations, although 39 percent were not incorporated, 38 percent of all art organizations surveyed were operated by government, or a college, or a university. For science organizations, 39 percent were not incorporated and 42 percent were operated by government, or a college, or a university.

TABLE 4

PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF ORGANIZATIONS
BY TYPE OF GOVERNING AUTHORITY AND SUBJECT SPECIALIZATION

1977

Type of Governing Authority	Subject Specialization				Entire Survey Group
	Art	History	Science	Other	
Municipal, county, State or Federal government	7%	10%	31%	9%	10%
Public college or university	13	--	7	2	2
Private college or university	18	--	4	3	2
Industrial or commercial organization	--	1	4	--	1
Individual or private ownership	2	2	--	2	2
Independent nonprofit organization	60	86	54	82	82
Other	--	1	--	2	1
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Number of organizations	56	442	29	93	620

TABLE 5

PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF ORGANIZATIONS
BY TYPE OF INCORPORATION AND SUBJECT SPECIALIZATION

1977

Type of Incorporation	Subject Specialization				Entire Survey Group
	Art	History	Science	Other	
New York State Provisional Charter	7%	23%	14%	15%	20%
New York State Regents Absolute Charter	29	42	17	33	39
New York State Regents Certificate of Incorporation	2	3	3	3	3
Department of State Certificate of Incorporation	16	14	17	18	15
Other	7	3	10	7	4
Unchartered	39	15	39	24	19
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Number of Organizations	56	442	29	93	620

CHAPTER 4

ANNUAL OPERATING BUDGET

Data on the 1977 operating budget for museums and historical societies are presented in this chapter, for the collective survey group, according to subject specialization, and by type of governing authority.

The majority of museums and historical societies were small when measured according to the size of their annual operating budgets: 30 percent operated with budgets of under $1,000; 58 percent had budgets of less than $10,000; 66 percent had budgets under $25,000. Many small organizations did, however, receive some in-kind services, such as building space, meeting rooms, equipment, and the services of volunteers. For the entire survey group, 11 percent of the organizations had annual operating budgets of $500,000 and over.

Most history organizations had small budgets: 38 percent had budgets under $1,000; 80 percent had budgets under $25,000. Other-combined organizations ranked next: 37 percent had budgets under $25,000; yet, 24 percent had $500,000 and over. Budgets were somewhat higher for organizations dealing with art or science: 31 percent of art organizations had budgets in the $100,000 to $499,999 range; 23 percent had $500,000 or more; among science organizations, 27 percent operated with budgets between $100,000 and $499,999; 24 percent had $500,000 and over.

There was little variation in governing authority among the nine budget categories. In each, the largest percentage of museums and historical societies was governed by independent nonprofit organizations. In all but the $100,000 to $499,999 and $500,000 to $999,999 categories, about 9 percent of the organizations were government-run. In the two mentioned categories, 18 percent and 25 percent of organizations, respectively, were government-operated. Here it is notable that 31 percent of science organizations were operated by governments, and science organizations tended to have large budgets.

TABLE 6

PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF ORGANIZATIONS
BY SIZE OF ANNUAL OPERATING BUDGET
AND SUBJECT SPECIALIZATION

1977

Size of Annual Budget	Subject Specialization				Entire Survey Group
	Art	History	Science	Other	
Under $1,000	6%	38%	4%	16%	30%
$ 1,000 - $ 4,999	2	24	10	9	19
$ 5,000 - $ 9,999	12	10	4	6	9
$ 10,000 - $ 24,999	11	8	7	6	8
$ 25,000 - $ 49,999	6	8	10	7	8
$ 50,000 - $ 99,999	9	4	10	12	4
$100,000 - $499,999	31	4	27	18	10
$500,000 - $999,999	4	2	4	14	6
$1 Million and over	19	1	20	10	5
No Response	--	1	4	2	1
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Number of Organizations	56	442	29	93	620

NOTE: Annual operating budget does not include funds allocated for major equipment, capital improvements, or major acquisitions for permanent collections. Also, it does not include in-kind services.

TABLE 7

PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF ORGANIZATIONS BY SIZE OF ANNUAL OPERATING BUDGET AND TYPE OF GOVERNING AUTHORITY

1977

Governing Authority	Size of Annual Operating Budget				
	Under $1,000	$1,000 to $4,999	$5,000 to $9,999	$10,000 to $24,999	$25,000 to $49,999
Municipal, county, State or Federal government	9%	8%	6%	12%	6%
Public college or university	2	1	7	4	--
Private college or university	--	--	4	8	2
Industrial or commercial organization	1	--	--	2	--
Individual private ownership	2	3	2	2	4
Independent, nonprofit organization	84	86	79	72	88
Other	2	2	2	--	--
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Number of organizations	190	120	56	49	48

TABLE 6 (Concluded)

Governing Authority	Size of Annual Operating Budget			
	$50,000 to $99,999	$100,000 to $499,999	$500,000 to $999,999	$1 Million and Over
Municipal, county, State or Federal government	11%	18%	25%	10%
Public college or university	--	2	--	--
Private college or university	3	5	4	7
Industrial or commercial organization	--	--	--	--
Individual private ownership	--	--	--	--
Independent, nonprofit organization	86	75	67	83
Other	--	--	4	--
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%
Number of organizations	36	60	24	29

CHAPTER 5

FACILITIES

The information presented in this chapter relates to the physical facilities in museums and historical societies that were in use at the time of the survey.

Findings show that 71 percent of the museums and historical societies operated one or more of the 22 types of facilities listed in the questionnaire. These ranged from administrative offices, to exhibition areas, to public parking. Over 70 percent of the organizations maintained exhibition areas. Notably, separate classrooms occurred in only 15 percent of the museums and historical societies. Thus, most of the educational activities that took place in museums and historical societies went on in nonclassroom settings characteristic of cultural institutions.

The variation that existed according to subject specialization is related to the aims of the organizations, types of programs, and annual operating budgets. Museums operate physical facilities for the care and exhibition of collections. Historical societies may do this also, but many function as membership societies with less emphasis on collections or museum-type facilities. Since the bulk of the history group in this survey was comprised of historical societies, it is not surprising that fewer history organizations are operating museum-type facilities, compared to the entire survey group.

Tables 9 and 10 show organizations maintaining administrative offices, classrooms and studios, exhibition areas, and children's exhibitions by size of annual operating budgets. Overall, in table 9, there is little variation among the nine budget categories in percent distribution of organizations maintaining the facilities. Table 10, as would be expected, shows that when budgets increased, more organizations within a category maintained administrative facilities, such as offices.

TABLE 8

PERCENT OF ORGANIZATIONS MAINTAINING SELECTED FACILITIES BY SUBJECT SPECIALIZATION

1977

Type of Facility	Subject Specialization				Entire Survey Group
	Art	History	Science	Other	
Administrative offices	81%*	33%	79%	66%	45%
Aquarium	--	--	7	1	1
Auditorium/theater	34	6	45	26	13
Botanical garden	4	1	31	6	3
Classroom, studios	32	7	62	27	15
Exhibition areas	91	65	86	78	71
Exhibitions designed for children	14	18	66	26	22
Field research station	7	2	31	4	4
Herbarium	--	2	31	4	2
Historic site	6	30	10	13	25
Historic structure(s)	11	44	17	32	38
Laboratory facilities for scientific research	2	1	31	10	4
Library	47	39	59	66	45
Members' facilities	22	14	24	13	15
Nature center	--	1	35	8	4
Planetarium	--	1	10	6	2
Public Parking	29	19	76	32	24
Restaurant or cafeteria	16	2	28	8	5
Sales desk or shop	63	34	52	49	40
Shop for production or conservation	18	8	24	29	13
Storage space for collections	72	46	45	61	51
Zoo	--	--	31	1	2
Summary of organizations with at least one of the above facilities	98%	65%	86%	78%	71%
Summary of organizations with no facilities	2%	35%	14%	22%	29%
Number of organizations	56	442	29	93	620

*Respondents were instructed to check as many facilities as applies. Column 1, line 1 of the table, therefore, is interpreted as follows: 81 percent of all art organizations maintain administrative offices.

TABLE 9

PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF ORGANIZATIONS MAINTAINING SELECTED FACILITIES BY SIZE OF ANNUAL OPERATING BUDGET

1977

Size of Annual Budget	Type of Facility			
	Administrative Offices	Classrooms & Studios	Exhibition Areas	Children's Exhibitions
Under $1,000	8% *	4%	24%	16%
$ 1,000 - $ 4,999	11	9	18	14
$ 5,000 - $ 9,999	9	6	9	10
$ 10,000 - $ 24,999	10	8	10	7
$ 25,000 - $ 49,999	13	8	9	14
$ 50,000 - $ 99,999	11	12	7	6
$100,000 - $499,999	19	24	12	17
$500,000 - $999,999	9	13	5	7
$1 Million and over	10	16	6	9
TOTAL	100%	100%	100%	100%
Number of organizations	276	90	440	133

* Table is interpreted as follows: 8 percent of organizations reporting that they maintain administrative offices have annual operating budgets of under $1,000.

TABLE 10

ORGANIZATIONS MAINTAINING SELECTED FACILITIES
BY SIZE OF ANNUAL OPERATING BUDGET

1977

Size of Annual Budget	Type of Facility			
	Administrative Offices	Classrooms & Studios	Exhibition Areas	Children's Exhibitions
Under $1,000	11% *	2%	53%	12%
$ 1,000 - $ 4,999	25	7	65	16
$ 5,000 - $ 9,999	45	9	73	23
$ 10,000 - $ 24,999	53	14	85	18
$ 25,000 - $ 49,999	76	15	80	39
$ 50,000 - $ 99,999	81	31	81	22
$100,000 - $499,999	93	37	90	37
$500,000 - $999,999	100	50	96	38
$1 Million and over	93	49	93	41

* Table is interpreted as follows: 11 percent of all organizations with annual operating budgets of under $1,000 maintain administrative offices.

CHAPTER 6

CULTURAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Cultural education activities, library collections, and publications are the subjects of this chapter.

Guided tours, classes, and performing arts programs were conducted by 80 percent of museums and historical societies. Almost 80 percent of the organizations offered guided tours for the general public, reflecting the popularity of this traditional activity for museums and historical societies. Survey data do not indicate the frequency with which programs were offered, nor do they indicate their quality.

More than one-fourth of the organizations had a regular school-loan program for educational materials and collections. History organizations reported this service least often; only 22 percent had regular loan programs, in contrast to art, science, and other-combined organizations where 32 percent, 48 percent, and 41 percent, respectively, reported such programs.

Museums and historical societies hold a wealth of library collections. Table 12 summarizes the types of library collections held by the entire survey group.

Publications provide a means for museums or historical societies to expand or supplement their educational activities. Periodicals and newsletters were being issued by 51 percent of the entire survey group. Table 13 shows the percentage of organizations issuing selected publications.

TABLE 11

PERCENT OF ORGANIZATIONS CONDUCTING SELECTED CULTURAL EDUCATION ACTIVITIES BY SUBJECT SPECIALIZATION
1977

Cultural Education Activity	Subject Specialization				Entire Survey Group
	Art	History	Science	Other	
Guided tours, special lectures, or demonstrations for:					
general public	84%	78%	97%	75%	79%
elementary school students	57	54	97	64	58
secondary school students	59	38	79	55	44
college students	68	22	76	45	32
other audiences	22	18	38	32	21
Classes, workshops, or clubs for:					
general public	43	22	59	42	29
elementary school students	23	10	66	33	17
secondary school students	27	9	69	22	15
college students	29	6	48	22	13
other audiences	11	5	17	15	7
Performing arts for:					
general public	36	10	21	30	16
elementary school students	7	2	10	10	4
secondary school students	7	3	10	9	4
college students	7	2	7	8	4
other audiences	2	1	10	6	2
Regular Programs for loaning educational materials or collections to schools:	32	22	48	41	27
Summary: Organizations conducting cultural activities	82%	77%	93%	85%	80%
Number of organizations	56	442	29	93	620

TABLE 12

PERCENT OF ORGANIZATIONS WITH LIBRARY COLLECTIONS
BY SUBJECT SPECIALIZATION

1977

Type of Library Collections Held	Subject Specialization				Entire Survey Group
	Art	History	Science	Other	
Books and rare books	50%	60%	76%	72%	68%
Documents	34	55	38	55	52
Genealogical materials	2	49	7	30	40
Manuscripts	16	35	31	46	34
Maps	9	57	31	46	49
Newspapers	23	47	4	33	41
Periodicals	50	35	55	50	39
Photographs	39	67	51	59	63
Records, tapes	25	23	17	28	24
Other library items	29	22	24	35	24
Organizations with Library Collections Available for Researchers	64%	74%	76%	79%	74%
Number of Organizations	56	442	29	43	620

TABLE 13

PERCENT OF ORGANIZATIONS ISSUING SELECTED PUBLICATIONS
1977

Publication	Percent of Organizations Publishing
Annual report	31%
Exhibition catalogues	19
Catalogues of collection	12
Scholarly or technical books and pamphlets	21
Periodicals and newsletters	51
Pamphlets, information brochures and popular books	49

CHAPTER 7

COLLECTIONS

Data tables in this chapter (a) indicate the percent of museums and historical societies with collections of art, history, or science objects; (b) describe the collections; and (c) show the percent of collections on exhibit in 1977.

Collections are usually the prime expression of a museum's specialization. Over three-fourths of the entire survey group owned or maintained collections. Collections were available for study by researchers in 57 percent of the organizations.

In the history group, where 70 percent of the organizations were historical societies, 77 percent still owned or maintained collections. For art, science, and other-combined organizations, the percentages having collections were 86, 93, and 73 respectively.

Among the entire survey group, 47 percent had collections which were exclusively or predominately history, 11 percent had collections which were exclusively or predominately art, and 10 percent gave nearly equal emphasis to art and history in their collections. Organizations with science collections or science combined with other subjects were lowest in frequency reflecting the overall finding that only 5 percent of the State's museums deal exclusively with science.

In table 16, the size and description of collections held by organizations are indicated in detail not previously available from any survey. The 76 descriptive categories are

adapted from Nomenclature for Museum Cataloging: A System for Classifying Man-Made Objects, by Robert G. Chenhall.*

*American Association for State and Local History, Nashville, Tennessee, 1978

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TABLE 14

PERCENT OF ORGANIZATIONS WITH COLLECTIONS OF ART, HISTORY, OR SCIENCE OBJECTS AND PERCENT OF COLLECTIONS ON EXHIBIT

1977

	Percent
Organizations with collections	
Art organizations	86%
History organizations	77
Science organizations	93
Other organizations	73
Total all organizations	78
Organizations with collections available for researchers	57
Percent of total collections on exhibit during all or part of 1977:	
Less than 10%	13
11% - 25%	11
26% - 50%	11
51% - 75%	15
76% - 100%	24
No Response	26

TABLE 15

DESCRIPTION OF ART, SCIENCE, AND HISTORY COLLECTIONS
HELD BY ORGANIZATIONS

1977

Collection Description	Percent of all Organizations
Exclusively or predominately art	11%
Exclusively or predominately history	47
Exclusively or predominately science	4
Nearly equal emphasis on art or history	10
Nearly equal emphasis on art and science	--
Nearly equal emphasis on history and science	2
Nearly equal emphasis on art, history and science	3
No Response	23
TOTAL	100%

TABLE 16

SIZE AND DESCRIPTION OF ART, SCIENCE AND HISTORY COLLECTIONS HELD BY ORGANIZATIONS

1977

Description of Collection	Percent of organizations with:		
	Fewer Than 25 Items	25 or More Items	Total
SCIENCE			
Anthropology			
Classical archaeological objects	3%	4%	7%
Native American objects - Eastern Woodland or Iroquois	9	10	19
Other Native American objects	6	7	13
Other anthropological objects	4	4	8
Botany			
Flowering plants (excluding trees and shrubs)	2	3	5
Fungi and algae	2	1	3
Mosses and ferns	1	2	3
Trees and shrubs	2	3	5
Geology			
Invertebrate fossils	3	2	5
Vertebrate fossils	3	2	5
Plant fossils	2	2	4
Minerals and gems	2	5	7
Other geological specimens, rocks, structural features	4	3	7
Zoology			
Insects	1	3	4
Molluscs	2	3	5
Other Invertebrates	2	2	4
Amphibians and reptiles	2	3	5
Birds	4	5	9
Fishes	2	2	4
Mammals	2	3	5
ART AND HISTORY			
Fine Art			
Ceramics	14	15	29
Graphic arts	10	18	28
Paintings	22	23	45
Sculpture	16	10	26
Other fine art	7	12	19

TABLE 16

(continued)

Description of Collection	Percent of organizations with:		
	Fewer Than 25 Items	25 or More Items	Total
Decorative Art			
Glass	19%	17%	36%
Silver, pewter	21	14	35
Textiles	16	20	36
Other decorative art	10	15	25
Buildings, Structures			
Historic houses, buildings	35	2	37
Architecture and building fragments, e.g., fireplace, wall section, window frame	19	5	24
Plumbing and heating fixtures	12	1	13
Building Furnishings			
Bedding, quilts	30	11	41
Floor coverings, rugs	23	5	28
Furniture	24	22	46
Lighting devices	19	14	33
Building accessories, e.g., small furnishings like soap dish; spittoon; vase; waste basket	19	19	38
Heating and cooling devices	16	4	20
Communication Artifacts			
Advertisements	17	16	33
Documents, e.g., letters, deeds	21	29	50
Packages and Containers			
Bottles	21	15	36
Suitcases and trunks	27	4	31
Other product packages	13	5	18
Personal Artifacts			
Adornment, jewelry	19	15	34
Clothing, costumes	25	24	49
Personal gear, e.g., wallet, umbrella, a pipe, eyeglasses	25	17	42
Personal weapon, e.g. hand gun	21	7	28
Toilet articles	19	8	27
Recreational Artifacts			
Game	14	4	18
Public entertainment device, e.g., theater, circus materials	10	4	14
Recreational devices, e.g., pin-ball machine, child's swing	8	2	10
Sports equipment	12	3	15
Toys, dolls	19	15	34

TABLE 16

(concluded)

Description of Collection	Percent of organizations with:		
	Fewer Than 25 Items	25 or More Items	Total
Societal Artifacts			
Ceremonial, religious artifacts	16%	8%	24%
Coins, money	13	9	22
Government artifacts	9	6	15
Stamps	7	6	13
Tools and Equipment, relating to the following activities:			
Agriculture	21	16	37
Cleaning and housekeeping	18	10	28
Hunting and fishing	15	4	19
Industry and business	16	11	27
Kitchen and food service	19	17	36
Lumbering and forestry	13	4	17
Military	18	11	29
Music	18	7	25
Navigation and surveying	14	3	17
Sound communication	11	3	14
Telecommunication	7	2	9
Visual communication	12	3	15
Woodworking and carpentry	19	18	37
Written communication	12	10	22
Other tools and equipment	14	13	27
Transportation Artifacts			
Aerospace transportation	5	1	6
Land transportation	12	4	16
Rail transportation	11	5	16
Water transportation	10	5	15

CHAPTER 8

ATTENDANCE, MEMBERSHIP, AND ACCESSIBILITY

Membership and attendance figures are one measure of the success of museums and historical societies in providing services to the public. These figures are affected by such factors as admission-fee policy and accessibility. Data on these topics are contained in this chapter.

Data on total attendance and attendance for elementary and secondary school students are examined for the entire State and for each county, as well as for each subject-matter group. The distribution of attendance by budget category is presented. Admission-fee policies and the accessibility of organizations is included for the entire survey group, then by subject specialization, and by size of annual operating budget. A few highlights are:

- Almost 30 million visits were made to 620 museums and historical societies in 1977; about 1.7 times the State's population at that time.

- Art organizations, which account for only 9 percent of the entire survey group had 28 percent of the attendance. While history organizations make up 71 percent of the survey group, they had only 16 percent of the attendance. Science organizations, 5 percent of the survey, had 27 percent of the visitation. Other-combined organizations, comprising 15 percent of the survey group, had 28 percent of the attendance.

- Some organizations had figures available for scheduled elementary and secondary school attendance. This total is almost 3.3 million. Other-combined organizations reported the greatest number of students in this category, with 1,454,233. History organizations ranked second with 756,861 students.

- An active membership can affect an organization's attendance, contributions, and general level of support. Almost 80 percent of organizations had membership. Science organizations led in numbers with 431,116 members; history organizations were next with 201,041 members.

- Every county in the State had at least one museum or historical society serving the local population and/or a wider audience.

- Over 70 percent of museums and historical societies were open to visitors on a regular basis. History organizations, especially those with annual operating budgets of less than $1,000 were open the least regularly.

- Organizations which closed for several months of the year did so most often in January, February, or March.

- Museums and historical societies have developed in a tradition of public service much like libraries have. Consequently, admission-fee requirements are still relatively new and infrequent. The majority of museums and historical societies in the survey group did not charge admission; this was true in all budget categories.

TABLE 17

ATTENDANCE AND MEMBERSHIP BY SUBJECT SPECIALIZATION

1977

Attendance/Type of Organization	Total Attendance	Percent of Organizations Reporting Attendance
Elementary and Secondary School Attendance		
Art Organizations	472,214	77%
History Organizations	756,861	54
Science Organizations	565,514	86
Other Organizations	1,453,233	70
Total	3,247,822	60%
Adult and Family Scheduled Attendance		
Art Organizations	517,593	66%
History Organizations	877,964	56
Science Organizations	361,600	73
Other Organizations	1,595,039	57
Total	3,352,196	58%
Other General Attendance		
Art Organizations	6,500,956	86%
History Organizations	2,726,390	62
Science Organizations	5,289,201	76
Other Organizations	5,267,988	73
Total	19,784,535	67%
Total Attendance*		
Art Organizations	3,334,553	100%
History Organizations	4,841,000	76
Science Organizations	8,103,790	86
Other Organizations	8,406,700	84
Total	29,686,043	80%

Membership/Type of Organization	Total Membership	Percent of Organizations Reporting Membership
Art	157,726	31%
History	201,041	84
Science	431,116	79
Other	71,335	67
Total	861,218	80%

*Some organizations reported only total attendance.

TABLE 18

ATTENDANCE AT ORGANIZATIONS BY
SIZE OF ANNUAL OPERATING BUDGET

1977

Size of Budget	Attendance (Nearest Thousand)	Percent of Total Organizations Reporting Attendance*	Percent of Organizations Within Budget Category Reporting Attendance**
Under $1,000	200,000	24%*	63%**
$ 1,000 - $ 4,999	286,000	19	80
$ 5,000 - $ 9,999	193,000	9	80
$ 10,000 - $ 24,999	575,000	8	85
$ 25,000 - $ 49,999	1,013,000	9	91
$ 50,000 - $ 99,999	822,000	6	86
$100,000 - $499,999	7,415,000	12	97
$500,000 - $999,999	3,834,000	5	96
$1 Million and over	15,064,000	6	100
Budget Not Reported	284,000	2	N/A
Total	29,686,000	100%	79%

*Percents in this column are interpreted as follows: 24% of all organizations reporting attendance (N=496) have annual budgets of $1,000 - $4,999.

**Percents in this column are interpreted as follows: 63% of the organizations with annual budgets of $1,000 - $4,999 report having attendance at their organizations.

TABLE 19

TOTAL ATTENDANCE BY
REGION AND COUNTY
1977

Region/County	Number of Organizations	Total Attendance at Organizations	Total Population	Attendance as Percent of Population
TOTAL STATE	620	29,686,043	18,072,851	164.3
New York City				
Manhattan	55	13,101,777	1,387,203	944.8
Bronx	6	1,449,075	1,336,234	108.4
Brooklyn	8	1,261,850	2,369,911	53.2
Queens	12	621,128	1,956,046	31.8
Richmond	9	671,554	336,055	199.8
Total Region	90	17,105,384	7,385,449	231.6
Nassau-Suffolk				
Nassau	29	835,268	1,389,122	60.1
Suffolk	45	386,412	1,291,946	29.9
Total Region	74	1,221,680	2,681,068	45.6
Mid-Hudson				
Dutchess	18	779,083	238,230	327
Orange	18	542,992	253,003	214.6
Putnam	7	132,440	73,067	181.3
Rockland	4	11,700	259,980	4.5
Sullivan	1	5,000	62,654	8.0
Ulster	8	50,791	157,993	32.1
Westchester	36	676,715	873,929	77.4
Total Region	92	2,198,721	1,918,856	114.6
Upper Hudson				
Albany	17	625,491	288,478	216.8
Columbia	7	33,820	56,816	59.5
Fulton	2	3,950	55,338	7.1
Greene	4	5,640	39,254	14.4
Montgomery	6	22,894	55,338	41.4
Rensselaer	12	45,065	152,016	29.6
Saratoga	11	306,790	150,295	204.1
Schenectady	4	95,615	157,583	60.7
Schoharie	6	20,600	29,667	69.4
Total Region	69	1,159,865	984,785	117.8
Lake George				
Clinton	4	16,822	85,447	19.7
Essex	10	231,950	35,851	646.9
Hamilton	1	96,500	5,057	1908.2
Warren	9	23,100	53,436	43.2
Washington	9	12,693	55,188	23.0
Total region	33	381,065	234,979	162.2
Black River-St. Lawrence				
Franklin	3	4,861	44,686	10.9
Jefferson	8	46,566	91,309	51.0
Lewis	3	5,469	25,568	21.4
St. Lawrence	9	24,360	117,613	20.7
Total Region	23	81,256	279,176	29.1

TABLE 19

(concluded)

Region/County	Number of Organization	Total Attendance at Organizations	Total Population	Attendance as Percent of Population
Upper Mohawk Valley				
Herkimer	7	19,150	68,013	28.2
Oneida	20	502,797	264,872	189.8
Total Region	27	521,947	332,885	156.8
Central				
Cayuga	7	55,468	77,720	71.4
Cortland	2	12,910	48,744	26.5
Madison	3	9,600	66,630	14.4
Onondaga	12	597,649	475,200	125.8
Oswego	5	127,614	122,405	104.3
Total Region	29	803,241	780,699	102.9
Southern Tier-East				
Broome	9	657,750	221,251	297.3
Chenango	3	5,429	47,819	11.4
Delaware	6	3,425	47,555	7.2
Otsego	13	420,555	58,667	716.8
Tioga	3	7,445	49,180	15.1
Tompkins	8	120,268	85,787	140.2
Total Region	42	1,214,862	510,259	238.1
Southern Tier-Central				
Chemung	5	60,140	100,216	60.0
Schuyler	2	1,700	18,017	9.4
Steuben	8	1,602,113	101,602	1576.9
Total Region	15	1,663,953	219,835	756.9
Southern Tier-West				
Allegany	4	3,026	51,209	5.9
Cattaraugus	4	100,650	85,860	117.2
Chautauqua	9	41,732	147,925	28.2
Total Region	17	145,408	284,994	51.0
Genesee Finger Lakes				
Genesee	6	3,595	61,109	5.9
Livingston	8	17,366	58,044	29.9
Monroe	26	1,602,975	711,255	225.4
Ontario	12	82,720	87,116	94.9
Orleans	3	2,000	38,344	5.2
Seneca	4	5,595	33,605	16.6
Wayne	9	46,410	83,080	55.9
Yates	8	5,300	20,981	25.3
Total Region	76	1,765,961	1,093,534	161.5
Western				
Erie	18	1,161,036	1,089,372	106.6
Niagara	8	255,139	238,096	107.2
Wyoming	7	6,525	38,864	16.8
Total Region	33	1, 422,700	1,366,332	104.1

TABLE 20

STUDENT ATTENDANCE
BY REGION AND COUNTY

1977

Region/County	Number of Organizations	Student Attendance at Institutions*	Public and Nonpublic School Enrollment*	Attendance as Percent of Enrollment
TOTAL STATE	620	3,247,922	3,782,090	85.9
New York City				
Manhattan	55	940,900	221,049	425.07
Bronx	6	30,375	255,352	11.9
Brooklyn	8	344,350	467,883	73.6
Queens	12	76,583	324,386	23.6
Richmond	9	66,243	78,020	84.9
Total Region	90	1,458,451	1,346,690	108.3
Nassau-Suffolk				
Nassau	29	247,073	300,008	82.4
Suffolk	45	62,700	341,837	18.3
Total Region	74	309,723	641,845	48.3
Mid-Hudson				
Dutchess	18	120,550	55,883	215.7
Orange	18	174,596	61,951	281.8
Putnam	7	4,790	17,724	27.0
Rockland	4	3,100	65,837	4.7
Sullivan	1	--	12,292	0.0
Ulster	8	12,337	34,837	35.4
Westchester	36	197,159	185,273	106.4
Total Region	92	512,522	433,797	118.1
Upper Hudson				
Albany	17	60,165	56,462	106.6
Columbia	7	4,833	12,651	38.2
Fulton	2	600	12,616	4.7
Greene	4	380	8,871	4.2
Montgomery	6	8,631	11,304	76.4
Rensselaer	12	12,190	34,096	35.8
Saratoga	11	102,101	39,759	256.8
Schenectady	4	15,625	30,286	51.6
Schoharie	6	1,741	6,739	25.8
Total Region	69	206,266	212,784	96.9
Lake George-Champlain				
Clinton	4	6,066	20,020	30.3
Essex	10	11,300	7,078	159.6
Hamilton	1	2,500	1,051	237.9
Warren	9	5,530	13,858	39.9
Washington	9	2,830	13,674	20.6
Total Region	33	28,226	55,681	50.7
Black River-St. Lawrence				
Franklin	3	1,753	12,299	14.3
Jefferson	8	7,516	21,820	34.4
Lewis	3	719	6,641	10.8
St. Lawrence	9	3,799	26,918	14.1
Total Region	23	13,787	67,678	20.4

TABLE 20

(Concluded)

Region/County	Number of Organizations	Student Attendance at Institutions*	Public and Nonpublic School Enrollment*	Attendance as Percent of Enrollment
Upper Mohawk Valley				
Herkimer	7	3,633	15,332	23.7%
Oneida	20	67,607	58,442	115.7
Total Region	27	71,240	73,774	96.6
Central				
Cayuga	7	3,293	16,875	19.5
Cortland	2	4,753	10,490	45.3
Madison	3	750	16,030	4.7
Onondaga	12	32,830	106,569	30.8
Oswego	5	8,699	28,913	30.1
Total Region	29	50,325	178,877	28.1
Southern Tier-East				
Broome	9	101,406	50,827	199.5
Chenango	3	2,000	13,200	15.2
Delaware	6	750	10,181	7.4
Otsego	13	33,205	11,172	297.2
Tioga	3	1,836	12,593	14.6
Tompkins	8	4,466	15,404	29.0
Total Region	42	143,663	113,377	126.7
Southern Tier-Central				
Chemung	5	14,610	21,259	68.7
Schuyler	2	283	3,461	8.2
Steuben	8	22,568	25,382	88.9
Total Region	15	37,461	50,102	74.8
Southern Tier-West				
Allegany	4	1,048	11,105	9.4
Cattaraugus	4	1,400	22,133	6.3
Chautauqua	9	10,851	32,221	33.7
Total Region	17	13,299	65,459	20.3
Genesee Finger Lakes				
Genesee	6	690	14,871	4.6
Livingston	6	3,150	12,281	25.6
Monroe	26	223,014	158,160	141.0
Ontario	12	12,300	21,104	58.3
Orleans	3	175	9,924	1.8
Seneca	4	1,250	7,682	16.8
Wayne	9	2,500	21,963	11.4
Yates	8	1,500	4,380	34.2
Total Region	76	244,779	250,365	97.7
Western				
Erie	18	119,197	231,287	51.5
Niagara	8	35,808	52,591	68.1
Wyoming	7	3,225	7,783	41.4
Total Region	33	158,230	291,661	54.3

*Attendance and Enrollment for Elementary and Secondary School Students.

TABLE 21

VISITATION AND ADMISSION FEE POLICIES OF ORGANIZATIONS BY SUBJECT SPECIALIZATION

1977

Policy	Subject Specialization				Entire Survey Group
	Art	History	Science	Other	
Visitation					
Percent organizations open to visitation on a regular basis	97%	65%	97%	81%	71%
Admission Fee					
Percent organizations requiring an admission fee	27	23	38	24	24
Percent organizations requesting a donation	20	24	10	25	22
Percent organizations with no admission fee or donation request	59	53	73	53	54

NOTE: Some organizations reported more than one admission fee policy.

TABLE 22

PERCENT OF ORGANIZATIONS OPEN TO VISITATION BY MONTH OF YEAR

1977

Month of Year	Percent of Organizations Open
January	67%
February	68
March	70
April	78
May	86
June	94
July	99
August	98
September	92
October	85
November	75
December	71
Every Month of Year	46%

TABLE 23

ORGANIZATIONS OPEN TO VISITATION AND
ADMISSION FEE POLICY OF ORGANIZATIONS
BY SIZE OF ANNUAL OPERATING BUDGET

1977

Size of Annual Budget	Number of Organizations	Percent Organizations Open to Visitation*	Percent Distribution of Organizations:**		
			Requiring an Admission Fee	Requesting a Donation	With no fee or Donation
Under $1,000	190	42%	10%	26%	35%
$ 1,000 - $ 4,999	119	66	15	24	21
$ 5,000 - $ 9,999	55	86	8	7	11
$ 10,000 - $ 24,999	49	94	8	11	6
$ 25,000 - $ 49,999	48	92	16	7	5
$ 50,000 - $ 99,999	36	92	8	5	6
$100,000 - $499,999	59	100	14	12	10
$500,000 - $999,999	24	100	8	4	3
$1 Million and over	29	97	13	4	3
Total Percent	NA	72%	100%	100%	100%
Total Number of Organizations	609	440	144	138	327

* This column is interpreted as follows: (example) 42 percent of all organizations with annual operating budgets of under $1,000, are open to visitation.

** The last 3 columns are interpreted as follows: (example) 10 percent of organizations requiring an admission fee, have annual operating budgets of under $1,000.

CHAPTER 9

PERSONNEL

The museum and historical society work force, including volunteers, is examined in this chapter. Numbers of employees in 1977 are looked at according to status of employment, occupational category, and size of annual operating budget, as well as subject specialization.

The work force for the entire survey group numbered 15,552: 5,253 (34 percent) were full-time paid; 6,746 (43 percent) were volunteers. Of 367 organizations with budgets under $10,000 only 37 had full-time paid employees. The number of employees in these organizations totaled 58.

Art organizations had the largest number of full-time paid staff members. History organizations reported the most total employees, but the lowest number of full-time paid staff members. Volunteers comprised 60 percent of the history work force. Science organizations reported the lowest number of volunteers.

Education employees, including volunteers, numbered 4,314. People working in education accounted for over one-third of the work force in history organizations as well as in other-combined organizations, but less than one-fifth of the work force in art or science organizations.

TABLE 24

NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES AND PERCENT OF ORGANIZATIONS MAINTAINING STAFF BY SUBJECT AREA SPECIALIZATION AND STATUS OF EMPLOYMENT

1977

Organizations by Subject Area		Full-time Paid Employees		Part-time Paid Employees		Temporary Employees		Volunteer Employees		Total Employees	
Specialization	Number	Number	Percent*	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Art	56	2,387	82%*	211	79%	244	57%	1,489	43%	4,331	98%
History	442	668	24	590	28	626	22	2,820	46	4,704	62
Science	29	956	79	952	55	240	62	449	42	2,597	97
Other	93	1,242	64	327	53	363	37	1,988	54	3,920	83
Total	620	5,253	38%	2,080	37%	1,473	29%	6,746	47%	15,552	70%

*Percents for this table are interpreted as follows: (example) 82 percent of all art organizations report having full-time paid employees.

TABLE 25

NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES AND PERCENT OF ORGANIZATIONS MAINTAINING STAFF
BY SUBJECT SPECIALIZATION AND OCCUPATIONAL CATEGORY

1977

Organizations by Subject Area		Administrative Employees		Clerical, Maintenance, Security Employees		Curatorial, Research, Library Employees		Education, Exhibition Employees		Total Employees	
Special-ization	Number	Number	Percent*	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Art	56	838	93%*	2,257	89%	668	70%	568	63%	4,331	98%
History	442	1,181	51	970	46	721	46	1,832	38	4,704	62
Science	29	738	82	828	76	557	57	474	73	2,597	97
Other	93	960	75	1,023	64	497	63	1,440	54	3,920	83
Total	620	3,717	60%	5,078	54%	2,443	51%	4,314	44%	15,552	70%

*Percents for this table are interpreted as follows: (example) 93 percent of all art organizations report having administrative employees.

TABLE 26

NUMBER AND PERCENT DISTRIBUTION
OF FULL-TIME EMPLOYEES IN ORGANIZATIONS
BY SIZE OF ANNUAL OPERATING BUDGET

1977

Size of Annual Budget	Full-time Employees		Percent of Organizations Reporting**
	Number	Percent*	
Under $1,000	21	3%*	3%**
$ 1,000 - $ 4,999	21	6	11
$ 5,000 - $ 9,999	16	7	27
$ 10,000 - $ 24,999	42	10	45
$ 25,000 - $ 49,999	61	14	67
$ 50,000 - $ 99,999	93	13	89
$100,000 - $499,999	507	24	97
$500,000 - $999,999	705	10	100
$1 Million and over	3,787	13	100
Total	5,253	100%	38%

*Percents in this column are interpreted as follows: (example) 3 percent of all organizations reporting full-time employees, have annual operating budgets of under $1,000.

**Percents in this column are interpreted as follows: (example) 3 percent of organizations with annual operating budgets of under $1,000, report having full-time employees.

APPENDIX

This appendix contains a list of selected sources for additional information concerning museums and historical societies. It also contains a copy of the questionnaire that was used to collect the statistical information presented in this report.

ADDITIONAL SOURCES

The reports and organizations listed here have basic data and interpretive information characterizing the condition of museums and historical societies, and other cultural institutions.

A. Reports

The following published reports provide an in-depth statewide or nationwide view of museums and deal with topics similar to those of this survey.

1. A Study of the Non-Profit Arts and Cultural Industry of New York State. National Research Center of the Arts, Inc., New York, 1972.

   A Second Look--The Non-Profit Arts and Cultural Industry of New York State. New York Foundation for the Arts, New York, 1978.

   Data on over 500 cultural institutions, including more than 120 museums are presented and interpreted in light of costs, manpower, and the future. Both of these reports are distributed by the Publishing Center for Cultural Resources, 152 West 42 Street, New York, New York 10036.

2. Museums USA: A Survey Report. National Endowment for the Arts, Washington, D.C., 1975.

   Report of a nationwide survey conducted in 1972 provides in-depth information on over 1,800 museums. Now out-of-print, the report is available through some libraries.

B. Sources

The following sources may have statistical information concerning museums and historical societies in New York State.

1. American Association for State and Local History
   1400 Eighth Avenue, South
   Nashville, Tennessee 37203

2. American Association of Museums
   1055 Thomas Jefferson Street, N.W.
   Washington, D.C. 20007

3. Assembly Committee on Tourism, Arts, and Sports Development
   Mathew Murphy, Chairman
   The Capitol, Room 547
   Albany, New York 12248

4. Institute of Museum Services
   Department of Health, Education, and Welfare
   Washington, D.C. 20202

5. Museum Aid Program
   New York State Council on the Arts
   80 Centre Street
   New York, New York 10013

6. New York State Association of Museums
   c/o Adirondack Museum
   Blue Mountain Lake, New York 12812

7. Regional Conference of Historical Agencies
   314 East Seneca Street
   Manlius, New York 13104

8. Senate Special Committee on the Culture Industry
   Tarky Lombardi, Jr., Chairman
   Senate Chamber
   Albany, New York 12247

Other organizations having statistical information are invited to share it with Museum Extension Services, New York State Museum, The State Education Department, Cultural Education Center, Albany, New York 12230.

The University of the State of New York
THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
New York State Museum
Albany, New York 12234

MUSEUM AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY SURVEY

FALL 1977

PERSON COMPLETING THIS SURVEY

NAME _____

TITLE _____

PHONE _____
(Area Code) (Number)

Please return the completed survey on or before October 21, 1977 in the enclosed self-addressed envelope.

I. MUSEUM AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY CHARACTERISTICS

1. Which of the following describes your organization's governing authority? (Check one)

- Municipal, county, State or Federal Government . . . . . ☐ (1)
- Public college or university . . . . . ☐ (2)
- Private college or university . . . . . ☐ (3)
- Industrial or commercial organization . . . . . ☐ (4)
- Individual private ownership . . . . . ☐ (5)
- Independent nonprofit organization . . . . . ☐ (6)
- Other (Specify: _____) . . . . . ☐ (7)

2. In what year was your organization founded? . . . . . ☐☐☐☐

If you do not know, check here . . . . . ☐

3. Is your organization incorporated or chartered? . . . . . Yes ☐ (1) No ☐ (2)

If yes, complete items 3a, b, and c.
If no, go to Question 4.

a. Indicate your incorporation or charter status: (check one)

- New York State Regents Provisional Charter . . . . . ☐ (1)
- New York State Regents Absolute Charter . . . . . ☐ (2)
- New York State Regents Certificate of Incorporation . . . . . ☐ (3)
- Department of State Certificate of Incorporation . . . . . ☐ (4)
- Other (Specify: _____) . . . . . ☐ (5)

b. Indicate the date on your charter or certificate . . . . . ☐☐ ☐☐ (Mo. Yr.)

c. Indicate the charter or certificate serial number . . . . . ☐☐☐☐☐

4. Which one of the following terms best characterizes your organization? Please base your choice according to how you present your organization to the public. (Check one)

Aquarium	☐ (01)	Historical Society	☐ (13)
Art Association	☐ (02)	History Museum	☐ (14)
Art Museum	☐ (03)	Industrial Museum	☐ (15)
Art and History Museum	☐ (04)	Library with Collections	☐ (16)
Art and Science Museum	☐ (05)	Natural History Museum	☐ (17)
Art Center	☐ (06)	Nature Center	☐ (18)
Botanical Garden	☐ (07)	Planetarium	☐ (19)
Children's Museum	☐ (08)	Science and Technology Museum	☐ (20)
Herbarium	☐ (09)	Zoo	☐ (21)
Historical Site	☐ (10)	Other (Specify: _____	
Single Historic Structure	☐ (11)	_____)	☐ (22)
Group of Historic Structures	☐ (12)		

5. Indicate which, if any, of the following are maintained by your organization. (Check all that apply)

- Administrative offices ☐
- Aquarium ☐
- Auditorium/Theater ☐
- Botanical Garden ☐
- Classrooms, studios ☐
- Exhibition areas ☐
- Exhibitions designed especially for children ☐
- Field research station ☐

5. (continued)

Herbarium . . . . . |__|
Historic site . . . . . |__|
Historic structure(s) . . . . . |__|
Laboratory facilities for scientific research . . . . . |__|
Library . . . . . |__|
Member's facilities . . . . . |__|
Nature Center . . . . . |__|
Planetarium . . . . . |__|
Public parking. . . . . |__|
Restaurant or cafeteria . . . . . |__|
Sales desk or shop for selling museum or society related items and books . . . . . |__|
Shop for exhibit production or restoration/conservation . . |__|
Storage space for collections . . . . . |__|
Zoo . . . . . |__|

6. Is your organization open to visitors on a regular basis? . . . . . Yes |__| (1) No |__| (2)

If yes, complete items 6a and b.
If no, go to question 7.

a. Check the months of the year during which the facilities are open to the public for two weeks or more.

If open every month check here . . . . . |__| All

January. . . .	|__|	July	|__|
February	|__|	August	|__|
March.	|__|	September. . . .	|__|
April.	|__|	October.	|__|
May.	|__|	November	|__|
June	|__|	December	|__|

b. During periods when the organization's facilities are open to the public, check the days of the week they are open and indicate the hours of operation. Show whole hours only.

Days		Hours	
		From	To
Monday	☐	☐	☐
Tuesday.	☐	☐	☐
Wednesday.	☐	☐	☐
Thursday	☐	☐	☐
Friday	☐	☐	☐
Saturday	☐	☐	☐
Sunday	☐	☐	☐

7. What is your organization's admission fee policy? (Check all that apply)

Require an admission fee. . . . . ☐

Request a donation. . . . . ☐

No admission fee or donation. . . . . ☐

8. Indicate your organization's annual operating budget.

(Do not include funds allocated for major equipment, capital improvements, or major acquisitions for your permanent collection. Also, do not include in-kind services.)

Check one:

Under $1,000.	☐ (1)	$50,000 - $99,999 . .	☐ (6)
$1,000 - $4,999 . . .	☐ (2)	$100,000 - $499,999 . .	☐ (7)
$5,000 - $9,999 . . .	☐ (3)	$500,000 - $999,999 . .	☐ (8)
$10,000 - $24,999 . . .	☐ (4)	$1 million & over . . .	☐ (9)
$25,000 - $49,999 . . .	☐ (5)		

9. Does your organization have a membership program? . . . . . Yes ☐ (1) No ☐ (2)

If yes, how many individual and organizational members does your organization have? (Count each organizational membership as one member) . . . . . ☐

10. Does your organization have any staff members?. . . . . Yes |__| (1) No |__| (2)

If yes, indicate the number of staff members in each category. (Count each staff member in only one category according to the duties which account for the largest portion of time.)

Staff	Full-Time Paid	Part-Time Paid	Temporary*	Volunteer
Administration				
Clerical/Maintenance/Security				
Curatorial/Research Library				
Education/ Exhibition				

*College work study, CETA, seasonal workers and other short-term employees.

II. PROGRAMS, FACILITIES, AND ATTENDANCE

11. Did your organization conduct any of the cultural activities described below during the past school year? . . . . . Yes |__| (1) No |__| (2)

If yes, check off the type of audience for each activity.

Activities	General Public	Elementary School Students	Secondary School Students	College or University Students	Other
Guided tours, special lectures, or demonstrations	|__|	|__|	|__|	|__|	|__|
Classes, workshops, or clubs	|__|	|__|	|__|	|__|	|__|
Performing arts	|__|	|__|	|__|	|__|	|__|

12. Does your organization have a regular procedure for loaning educational materials or collections to schools?. . . . . Yes |__| (1) No |__| (2)

13. Does your organization publish any of the following materials? (Check all that apply)

Annual report . . . . . |__|

Exhibition catalogues . . . . . |__|

Catalogues of collections . . . . . |__|

Scholarly or technical books and pamphlets. . . . . |__|

Periodicals and newsletters . . . . . |__|

Pamphlets, information brochures, and popular books . . . . . |__|

14. Does your organization have library items available for use by researchers? . . . . . Yes ☐ (1) No ☐ (2)

If yes, check all of the following that apply.

- Books and rare books . . . . . ☐
- Documents . . . . . ☐
- Genealogical materials . . . . . ☐
- Manuscripts . . . . . ☐
- Maps . . . . . ☐
- Newspapers . . . . . ☐
- Periodicals . . . . . ☐
- Photographs . . . . . ☐
- Records, tapes . . . . . ☐
- Other library items . . . . . ☐

15. Estimated annual attendance at this facility:

Attendance for scheduled elementary and secondary groups (tours, classes, etc.)	
Attendance for scheduled adult and family programs . . .	
Other general attendance	
Total attendance	

16. Does your organization own or maintain collections of art, history or science objects? . . . . . Yes ☐ (1) No ☐ (2)

If no, you may stop here. Thank you for taking the time and effort to fill out this questionnaire. Please return it in the enclosed self-addressed envelope.

If yes, please complete the remaining items.

17. Which of the following best describes your organization's collections. (Check one)

- Exclusively or predominately art . . . . . ☐
- Exclusively or predominately history . . . . . ☐
- Exclusively or predominately science . . . . . ☐
- Nearly equal emphasis on art and history . . . . . ☐
- Nearly equal emphasis on art and science . . . . . ☐
- Nearly equal emphasis on history and science . . . . . ☐
- Nearly equal emphasis on art, history and science . . . . . ☐

18. Approximately what percent of your total collection was on exhibit at some time during the last 12 months.

Less than 10%. . . .	☐ (1)	51% - 75%. . .	☐ (4)
11% - 25%.	☐ (2)	76% - 100%. . .	☐ (5)
26% - 50%.	☐ (3)		

19. Are your collections available for use by researchers?. . . Yes ☐ (1) No ☐ (2)

20. The following categories are a guide to the kinds of objects found in science collections. Please review the categories and check those objects in your collections.

	Fewer than 25 Items	25 Items or More
Anthropology		
Classical archaeological objects.	☐	☐
Native American objects - Eastern Woodland or Iroquois.	☐	☐
Other Native American objects	☐	☐
Other anthropological objects	☐	☐
Botany		
Flowering plants (excluding trees and shrubs) . . .	☐	☐
Fungi and algae	☐	☐
Mosses and ferns.	☐	☐
Trees and shrubs.	☐	☐
Geology		
Invertebrate fossils.	☐	☐
Vertebrate fossils.	☐	☐
Plant fossils	☐	☐
Minerals and gems	☐	☐
Other geological specimens, rocks, structural features.	☐	☐
Zoology		
Insects	☐	☐
Molluscs.	☐	☐
Other Invertebrates	☐	☐
Amphibians and reptiles	☐	☐
Birds	☐	☐
Fishes.	☐	☐
Mammals	☐	☐

21. The following categories are a guide to the kinds of objects found in art and history collections. It is possible that some items in your collections might be classified as either art or history. In such cases select the category which best suits your organization's use of the objects. Please do not include objects in more than one category.

	Fewer than 25 Items	25 Items or More
Fine Art		
Ceramics	☐	☐
Graphic arts	☐	☐
Paintings	☐	☐
Sculpture	☐	☐
Other fine art	☐	☐
Decorative Art		
Glass	☐	☐
Silver, Pewter	☐	☐
Textiles	☐	☐
Other decorative art	☐	☐
Buildings, Structures		
Historic Houses, buildings	☐	☐
Architecture and building fragments, e.g., fireplace, wall section, window frame	☐	☐
Plumbing and heating fixtures	☐	☐
Building Furnishings		
Bedding, quilts	☐	☐
Floor coverings, rugs	☐	☐
Furniture	☐	☐
Lighting Devices	☐	☐
Building accessories, e.g., small furnishings like soap dish; spittoon; vase; waste basket	☐	☐
Heating and cooling devices	☐	☐
Communication Artifacts		
Advertisements	☐	☐
Documents, e.g., letters, deeds	☐	☐

	Fewer than 25 Items	25 Items or More
Packages and Containers		
Bottles	☐	☐
Suitcases and trunks	☐	☐
Other product packages	☐	☐
Personal Artifacts		
Adornment, jewelry	☐	☐
Clothing, costumes	☐	☐
Personal gear, e.g., wallet, umbrella, a pipe, eyeglasses	☐	☐
Personal weapon, e.g., hand gun	☐	☐
Toilet articles	☐	☐
Recreational Artifacts		
Game	☐	☐
Public entertainment device, e.g., theater, circus materials	☐	☐
Recreational devices, e.g., pinball machine, child's swing	☐	☐
Sports equipment	☐	☐
Toys, dolls	☐	☐
Societal Artifacts		
Ceremonial, religious artifacts	☐	☐
Coins, money	☐	☐
Government artifacts	☐	☐
Stamps	☐	☐
Tools and Equipment, relating to the following activities:		
Agriculture	☐	☐
Cleaning and housekeeping	☐	☐
Hunting and fishing	☐	☐
Industry and business	☐	☐
Kitchen and food service	☐	☐
Lumbering and forestry	☐	☐
Military	☐	☐
Music	☐	☐
Navigation and surveying	☐	☐
Sound communication	☐	☐
Telecommunication	☐	☐
Visual communication	☐	☐

	Fewer than 25 Items	25 Items or More
Tools and Equipment (cont'd.)		
Woodworking and carpentry	☐	☐
Written communication	☐	☐
Other tools and equipment	☐	☐
Transportation Artifacts		
Aerospace transportation	☐	☐
Land transportation	☐	☐
Rail transportation	☐	☐
Water transportation	☐	☐

22. In the space below please list three of your major collections, indicating type of items, period, and locale if appropriate. (e.g. 19th Century Shaker furniture, Adirondack minerals).

_____

_____

_____

Thank you for completing this questionnaire. Please return it in the enclosed self-addressed envelope. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.